

REMARKS

Claims 1 to 10 are pending in the application.

With respect to the objection to the drawings for the reasons indicated on the form PTO 948, which accompanied the present Office Action, reconsideration is respectfully requested on the following grounds.

Replacement drawings believed to overcome the objections noted by the draftsman have been submitted herewith.

With respect to the objection to the disclosure, reconsideration by the Examiner is respectfully requested on the following grounds.

Page 12 has been amended to remove footnote 3, found on the last line, which was a typographical error which occurred during the drafting of the application.

In addition, footnote 4 of Table 1, found on the first line of page 13, which was also a typographical error which occurred during the drafting of the application, has been removed.

The amendments to the disclosure, as discussed above, are believed to overcome the Examiner's objections to the disclosure.

With respect to the objection to the Abstract, reconsideration by the Examiner is respectfully requested on the following grounds.

The Abstract has been amended to indicate that the invention is directed to a method of reducing pollen production in plants by transformation with a nucleic acid encoding an edited form of the *Brassica napus* orf224 gene, as requested by the Examiner.

The amendment to the Abstract, as presented above, is believed to overcome the Examiner's objection.

With respect to the objection to the Title, reconsideration by the Examiner is respectfully requested on the following grounds.

The Title has been amended to "METHOD FOR REDUCTION OF POLLEN PRODUCTION IN PLANTS", which is believed to be descriptive of the instant application.

The amendment to the Title, as presented above, is believed to overcome the Examiner's objection.

Paragraph [0021] on page 7 of the disclosure has been amended to renumber "Fig. 4" and "Fig. 5" as "Fig. 5" and "Fig. 6", respectfully, and to include the brief description of Fig. 4. This amendment corrects an error wherein the description of Fig. 4 was inadvertently omitted. Support for this description can be found on page 18, Table 4 of the present application.

With respect to the rejection to claims 1 to 4 under 35 U.S.C. 101 as claiming the same invention as that of claims 1 and 4 to 6 of U.S. Patent No. 6,365,788, and the rejection of claim 5 as being unpatentable over claim 2 of U.S. 6,365,788, reconsideration by the Examiner is respectfully requested on the following grounds.

The Applicant wishes to note that the claims of U.S. 6,365,788 do not in any way relate to the claims of the present application. A copy of this U.S. patent is enclosed for the Examiner's convenience. Clarification of this rejection by the Examiner is respectfully requested.

The amendment to Table 1 on page 12 replaces the term "AP3/C4-ORF³" with the term "AP3/C4-ORF", in order to reflect the removal of footnote 3 as discussed above.

The amendments to paragraph [0040] and paragraph [0047] correct typographical errors which occurred during the drafting of the present application. Support for the correction of "C4-ORF" to "A9-ORF" in paragraph [0040] can be found on page 7, line 5. Support for the correction of "AP3/A9-A6a" to "AP3/A9-A6u" in paragraph [0047] can be found throughout the application, for example on page 15, line 9.

The Applicants submit that no new matter has been added by the present amendments.


It is submitted, therefore, that the claims are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the Examiner's rejections is respectfully requested. Allowance of claims 1 to 10 at an early date is solicited.

In the event that there are any questions concerning this amendment or the application in general, the Examiner is respectfully urged to telephone the undersigned so that prosecution of this application may be expedited.

No additional fees are believed to be necessitated by this amendment. However, should this be an error, authorization is hereby give to charge Deposit Account No. 19-5113 for any underpayment or to credit any overpayment.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 08/05/03

By: 
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Enclosures